

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

FIELD DIARY

Montana or Washington

Mr. Vernon Bailey

Montana

(Official title.)

1918

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8-2887

all part of what is now of value

## INSTRUCTIONS.

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*D. F. Houston*  
Secretary of Agriculture.

8-2887

~~1917~~ 1918.

April 6 - Left Denver at 7:20 P.M.  
bound for Glacier Park.

April 7. Daylight at Crawford,  
Nebraska. Reached Billings  
at dark and had to stay  
over night.

April 8. Left Billings at 10 A.M.  
for Great Falls, wound up gulches  
and across flats over onto  
Painted Rock, and the Musselshell  
at and through Judith Gap and  
Belt. Lots of snow on the Big Snow  
and Belt Mts. but not much on  
the Highwood. A recent heavy  
fall of snow over the whole country  
has made the grass green and  
started the grain. A good  
prospect for crops. Ditches  
all full of water & lots of dust.

Merriam - Several large  
woodchucks seen in canyon  
S.E. of Billt. Burrows & trails  
common.

Cynomys - Common in places  
all day from Billings to Great Falls.

Citellus richardsonii - abn. from  
Judith Gap to Great Falls.  
Three males seen in top part of  
one female.

Citellus t. pallidus - One seen  
close to the track near Billings.

Thomomys - Gopher hills  
com. from Billings to Great Falls,  
especially on the rich bottom  
lands along valleys and in alfalfa  
fields and meadows.

Lepus campestris, One seen in  
full gray coat near Judith Gap.

Dark at Great Falls.

April 9 - Arrived at Belton  
6:20 AM. Rained most all day.  
Saw Gibb and got location of elk  
herds from E. W. Sweetnam, the ranger  
at the Station at Paola. He says that  
a week ago he counted at one time  
over 300 elk from near the station  
and that another ranger recently  
made a trip up Park Creek and  
from the elk trails and sign and a  
few dead elk calves that had got  
down in the creek he thought  
there had been 500 elk in that  
valley through the winter.  
Mr. Sweetnam says they winter mostly  
in the warm slopes of Double Mtn.  
and from there around to Park  
Creek.

Many white tail deer winter  
there on the same slopes.

April 10 Explored around Bilton  
on both sides of river and watched  
the deer which came close to the  
houses in the town. Five came  
onto the Chalet lawn and I could  
see them most of the day on the  
slope north of the river. During  
the deep snow of winter 20 or 30  
were often seen at a time around  
Bilton. They would get on the Ry.  
Track when the snow was deep  
both sides and kill & the first  
rangers estimate 30 killed by  
the trains during the winter  
within a few miles of Bilton.  
Coyotes are said to have killed  
a good many along the river &  
the track. The bucks have all  
shed their horns before this.

The snow is all gone in the open  
and on South slopes but lots of it  
on cold slopes and in the woods.

April 11, Borrowed Gibbs snowshoes  
and took a pack on my back &  
started up the North Fork of Flamingo  
valley early while the snow was  
frozen hard. About 3 feet of hard  
snow in the woods with a crust  
on it that holds and would hold  
a horse. A frosty night has  
frozen it solid, but the sun  
soon softened the surface and  
walking became slippery and  
treacherous. Lunched near McClellan's  
Meadows and passed El Cañon  
Creek and reached Gapport's  
ranch about 4 o'clock & stopped  
for the night. Came 13 1/2 miles  
with a 25 lb. pack on my back  
and it was far enough.  
A warm day, clear and still  
most of the time. Thawing fast  
McDonald Lake seems to be  
open & lots of duck hunting in it.

Saw one Moose track crossing  
the road north of Canoe Creek,  
a big bull, with tracks about a  
foot apart in soft deep  
snow. The snow is so hard and icy  
on the surface that ~~no~~ no animals make tracks  
when it is frozen and few move about  
when it is soft.

At Giphart's there were lots of robins  
and juncos & in the morning a Pine  
Grasshopper came and sang to us.

Mr. Giphart says he has had as many  
as 50 on his doorstep at a time  
during the cold and deep snow of the winter  
and that a cat covet at an empty  
house had the yard covered with  
thin feathers.

The wing of a great gray owl  
lies in his wood shed and he says  
a middle sized owl (probably hawk owl) was  
occasionally seen during the winter.

He has a fine mounted head of a mule deer  
from high up on Huckleberry Mtn. that  
I photographed. It has very perfect  
tarns and is large and rather dark  
gray.

He told me of a grizzly with 2 cubs  
that he suddenly came close onto in the  
huckleberry patches. She made for him at  
sight and he fired the only 2 shells in his  
dukes automatic and then ran down the  
steep mountain sides as fast as he could.  
She passed him as he caught a little  
tree and swung out of her way, then she came  
back at him but he sides stepped and got  
below and made another run, but she went  
past him again and with one blow tore  
his shirt half off as she went. Then she  
got on a level and stood up above looking  
at him and he at her, while he tried to  
reload, but finally she turned and went  
back up to her cubs and was gone & got off.

With only a few scratches & the  
loss of a shirt & a dollar hat & berries.  
He found the hat a week later but the mice  
had eaten the rim & spoiled it.

He says coyotes & mountain lion  
kill more game than all the hunters  
& poachers together in this country.

April 12 Got up at daylight  
had breakfast & was ready to start  
at sunrise. A beautiful morning with  
good crust, 22° above zero.  
A glorious tramp over to Dutch  
Creek and then down the north side  
to Tom Sullivans camp at the  
mouth on the bank of North Fork of Hells.  
Passed several little ranches, Jones &  
Kid Frederick, but most of the way was  
through heavy forest or old burns.  
Very little snow along Dutch Creek  
or the river tho 3 or 4 feet in the  
timber from Gypsum to the Creek, a  
mile & a half.

Found Mr. & Mrs. Sullivan & their  
little grand daughter Virginia <sup>Palmer</sup> at  
home in a neat cabin on the  
river bank in the worst possible  
place for game protection.

Tramped over woods due south all  
morning with Mr. Sullivan.

Dutch Creek, April 12.

Alees - Saw one moose track before reaching Dutch Creek and a few more the south. Sullivan says about a dozen moose wintered around there, but in former years they have been much more numerous. They did not yard much last winter as the snow was not very deep. 3 to 5 were generally found in a bunch in a patch of timber & kept the snow packed down over small areas.

Mr. Sullivan says they still had horns when he saw them last about 3 weeks ago & that they do not all shed their horns every year. He heard them calling recently and also last fall.

Odocoileus hemionus, white tail deer are com. & lots of tracks seen. They are now keeping mainly on bare ground & eating thistles, gnawing the heads into the ground. In winter they have heated the *Cornus* bushes & fed on the long green & black mass that fall from the branches & on the branches of *Padernus*. Their greatest abundance in winter is around Adair ranch where 27 were seen at one haystack.

Odocoileus hemionus, a few are seen. Both east & west of valley. Elk are odd form seen. Used to be a few in here.

Sciurus - com. Nests of grass & back against tree trunks & out on branches. Castor columbianus - a few along Dutch Creek & running on the prairies.

Thomomys, Hills first seen on north side of Dutch Creek and then down the valley in openings to Rivers where obs. winter signs are seen.

Neotoma - 5 caught at his cabin this winter.

Peromyscus - very com. in cabin & troublesome.

Apus bairdi - com. signs.

Thriothorus Runways com.

Castor - A few signs & one old block Cottonwood & put through cut down some 8 or 10 years ago I should think. Photographed. Some cuttings along creek & said to be bank beam in river.

Erythizon - said to be com. in places.

Eriogonum - a few found here. One caught in set. trap.

Litis - 5 caught across west of river this winter but none in Park. 3 tracks seen by Mr. Sullivan. Found one fresh scratching place near north of Dutch & Canes Creek.

Lynx - A few Canada lynx & a few bobcats.

Coyotes numerous & very destructive of deer. Only 9 dead deer found killed by them this winter by Mr. Sullivan but that many <sup>could be</sup> found every day last winter. Deer hair in droppings along trails.

Wrens varibills - Said to be a good way. 5 killed by one man. No tracks seen yet.

Blackfer - Con. 20 tracks yet.

Weasels. Con. 1

A pair of canada geese evidently had nest on island in river.

Mallard ducks - A pair seen on shore of island.

Mergus americanus - Con. in river two males seen fighting over a ♀.

Bonasa - Con. Driven.

Dendragapus

Canichetes

April 13. From Sullivans Ranger Station at mouth of Canoe Cr. to Adairs Ranch kept by Tho Christianson about 5 miles. Then round that section ad up to Logging Creek & back.

The big yellow pine forest begins about 2 miles south of Adairs ad covers the warm slopes and flats up the valley. Much has been burned but there are still great areas of beautiful big trees, 35-50 feet through & over 100 feet high. One that had fallen was 43 paces to where the top was broken & gone at 6 inches in diameter. It must have stood 140 feet when perfect ad was not over 3 feet in diameter at stump. Douglas spruce is also abundant & large. Lodgepole, Pine & fir are found on cold flats & cold slopes.

The great burns are coming up to tallspike pine. There are meadows and fields and open slopes but at the waterfall is said to be the lightest of any in on the west slope of the pass.

It is the great white tail deer winter range at Mt. Sullivan reports 100 seen in a day in a mile along the road here last winter and 27 at a trapline. Mr. Christiansen says they have had 30 around their logsteele ~~house~~ some morning & had to keep a dog chained near & over this bay. In the afternoon I saw 26 living deer and 12 dead ones killed by coyotes in a square mile. & the woods are trashed up as if 1000 sheep had wintered here.

The bushes are eaten down to stumps year after year.

Amelanchier <sup>canescens</sup> = Acer seem to be the favorites - but sage + Lonicera conjugialis, Rubus <sup>vitifolius</sup> nutkana, a little Symphoricarpos, many dry woods, green + black lichens are eaten. Now the deer seem to be picking green grass + weeds + thistles.

Coyotes have eaten most of these, bones + all are generally only a bushel of hair remains.

Moose - Five moose have wintered in the big barn a couple of miles south of Addis Ranch. Signs is corn + willows have been eaten down to stumps in places. Mr. Sullivan says they have been there all winter and he has seen them often. The old bull pawed at his name stood up at about 100 yards so he went no nearer. Says they love bare birching recently. Had horns 3 weeks ago + do not always shed them every year.

Sciurus - abn. Come seeds in big bags.

Peromyscus - one <sup>seen</sup> at Sullivans.

Mustela - Nest of deer hair in his nest box at Logging Co. Station. Had full crock of deer with cubfish.

Strong smell, lots of sign in cabin.

Urotrichus luteiventris - 2 seen, the first.

Citellus columbianus - numerous, eat set shirt whiskers, with yellow pine + a few

Marmota <sup>seen</sup>, Mr. Sullivan says he has seen a few from woodchucks.

Fiber - A few. The dogs brought up 2 to Christiansons. Not eat.

Castor - Many old dams + ponds but few beavers.

Thomomys - come to begin to work.

Lepus baileyi - signs seen.

Urothecetes, track seen by Christianson

April 8. One old adult

Urothecetes - A few. one adult, one kitten.

Zebras - 3 skulls - , many going  
caught - Many killed in past.

Weasels - 60

Otters a few on river or on land  
seen on Logging Cr. this winter

Sharp-tailed grouse - ~~These~~ flocks on the  
plains near here 2 years ago.  
in winter

Wolverines I caught 1896 in  
Caribou Cr. by Mr. Christian;  
A track seen on land of Logging Cr. in  
1906.

Errotomys - I caught & photographed

April 14 Left the Adair Ranch  
about 8 AM & reached the  
ranger cabin at mouth of  
Indian Creek at 2 PM.  
Had a good horse but going was  
slow over icy or muddy roads.  
Stopped at cabin to photograph  
woodrat in nest & watched  
deer and tracks all along.

Came through woods most of  
way except on Long Pine; cabin  
which is small, not ~~more~~ 80  
acres. Saw a large deer at.  
Then woods again to the hills  
and a mile & a half beyond to prairie.  
Cabin at south end of Big Pine.  
Left my horse & went on foot all  
over the prairie and back into woods.  
The prairie is 2 miles long & only a  
mile wide. Level old stone flats  
mostly open but bordered with

lodgepole pine. Along the SW slope of the first bench extends a narrow belt of yellow pine & Douglas spruce, but there has been little yellow pine this side of Logging Creek.

The open prairie & the warm slopes back of it are transition zone & here butterflies & Clotwiss are in blossom & grass getting green while there is 2 to 4 feet of snow in the woods.

The snowfall is not so heavy along the prairie strips. The soil is good but rather stony. Sagebrush (*A. tridentata*) lies down on gravelly slopes and *Balsamorhiza* among the yellow pine.

Farms cover a large part of the prairie & wheat & oats and potatoes are raised.

Moose - 2 tracks seen at edge of Big Prairie -

White-tailed deer - 4 seen near Adams ranch (Th. Chidlowson) and 6 on Larch Pine prairie. Have wintered in great numbers along Logging Creek & Bowman Creek valleys and along the banks of the rivers. Not many across Big Prairie. All white-tail. Kept much in dense woods where lichens fall on snow and are eaten. Now feeding on green grass & thistles.

Woolly bear - Mr. Palmer says there are a lot along with piles of Kautza sage.

Sciurus - abn. all along.

Citellus columbianus - Abn. on prairie but noisy & active.

Neotoma - One food dead in cabin  
& put in nest & photographed.

Met a pool wide of black bison  
& a few Franklin grouse feathers, half  
covered over. Pellets all in tin  
basin near nest.

Erethizon - One caught under Coop  
& photographed.

Microtus canadensis - One food dead  
by nest in Big Prairie. Holer runway  
meadow & surface nests a few.

Thomomys - Very meadow all  
prairie & then ground.

Garden at ranger station almost  
plowed by them under snow.

Two caught at Roger station.

Peromyscus - a few signs in woods.

Canis - Coyote tracks seen at a  
few deer kills.



Lynx - One track seen near here  
by John Sloan the largest.

Ursus - Grizzly track seen in wood  
probably same as spotted by Mrs  
Christiansen.

Black Bear tracks near Bowman  
Creek made yesterday.

Otter - Tracks seen on Bowman Creek  
by Sloan this winter.

Marten - A few tracks seen near  
Bowman Cr. by Sloan.

Microtus undulatus - One caught in out door  
cellar near the potatoes. Photographed.

Peromyscus crinitus, One caught in  
outdoor cellar near the vegetables.  
Photo taken.

April 15. Left Sloans Ranger Station on Indian Creek at 8 AM with pack horse, bed roll & sack of grub & accompanied by Mr. Sloan. Reached Kintla Lake at 2 PM. & camped for the night at the cabin at lower end of lake.

Followed whole length of Big Prairie, about 3 miles, west through Ranch Prairie, about 80 acres. Then through Lodge pole timber the rest of way. No yellow pine worthy Big Prairie ad only a narrow strip along east side. The open country is probably transition but *Antennaria tridentata* is the only conspicuous shrub to characterize it.

Road all bare except in thick woods. Kintla Lake still covered with ice except narrow strip along shore on north side.

Saw a few old wood tracks in  
some coyote tracks & a bear track  
near the lake.

Mistana had great cache of 4005  
bushels of green beans in cabin at SW  
corner of lake but a big cat lift  
at night cabin had tilted him.

Kingfisher - 1, first seen.

Bluebirds & Robins abn. also peacocks.  
Varied Thrush heard near station in evening.  
1 Merganser & 2 pairs of Widgeons.  
2 Ram.

April 14 - Left cabin at lower end of  
Kinntla lake at 8 am & reached  
cabin at upper end at 12.  
In PM went to sides of upper  
Kinntla but not close up it.  
Returned to cabin at upper end of  
lower lake and stayed over night.

Rough trail up north side of lakes  
through dense forest & windfalls & second  
growth. A great fresh avalanche  
near lower end of upper lake, the biggest  
I ever saw - clear across valley &  
snow still 50 feet deep at bottom.  
See photos.

Lakes all frozen over except a small  
strip at lower end of each end along  
sides of lower lake and a large patches  
at upper end of lower lake.

Snow all gone along warm slopes  
high up. Trail mostly dry.

No yellow or white pine or  
cedars but a little juniper was scattered  
along lake shore. Lots of Tamarack,  
Douglas spruce, Lodgepole, and a little  
Picea & Abies, some birch & cottonwood  
& aspen & alder & maple.

Woods carpeted with deep yellow green  
moss (Hypnum) & the evergreen vines of  
twinsberry, bunchberry, & Bistortas.  
Some Amelanchier & Cornus & high  
bush cranberry.

Loon, 1 in lake

Sheldrake 12 in upper gl. b.

Mallard 1

Tuca 1

Sitta heard

Picus gambeli a few

& septentrionalis

Namus singing

Cuckoo signs on rocks

Raven, several

Clark Crow 1

Dryobates 1

Caespholus signs on

Buteo 3 seen & heard during

Golden Cn Kinglet 1 seen

Ruby heard

Bubo heard in wing

Sawwhet or Richard's, heard in night

Moose, a few tracks & signs of tritie  
Muskdeer, tracks & signs abundant all  
along water in woods at edge of lake.  
Horned deer 2 killed by coyotes  
Meat at cabin & in bear traps pun.

Sealers, com all day, tracks of geese &  
moose & birds with deer hair & feathers,  
both close to banks & out on hills.

Motor - great cache of beavers at Id  
spur. One alive & one dead in cabin  
at upper end of lake.

Porcupines, one in trap at cabin.  
Tiber - one shot at by Sloane in lake  
Castles, various last fall, 3 large  
houses & many domes & much  
wood cut last fall. No fresh  
signs. All caught.  
Cut willow, Cottonwood, birch & alder.  
Willow & cottonwood cedar.

Lepus - tracks & signs com.  
Fris, signs seen. tracks in snow  
tracks made by fox before.

Lynx, one track, one skinned  
lynx at cabin.

Coyote, abn. tracks along all  
trails, heard howling. Kill  
many deer. Sign all day &  
mostly deer tracks.

Ursus horribilis. Old & yearling seen  
upper lake. eating bear berries along  
edge of mountain. Abdomen yellow  
with brown lugs & face & manu.  
Food mainly berries with salmon  
goddess & over rocks & wood.  
Wear conspicuous & black.

Bear traps - signs by trees  
baited with salmon.

Wolf - found one in trap in cabin  
photographed & freed it - a small  
success by cabin.

April 17 - Skinned a mink in  
night ad I hoped to find tracks  
of game but found only snowshoe  
rabbits, Coyote, Pampas,  
Swotomps, Moltos & Scurvus tracks.  
Not even a deer or moose track.

Went up trail half way  
to upper lake, then back &  
down the trail to lower end of  
lower lake. Snow all went  
off before noon but the  
trail was slippery & tiresome.  
Carried about 25 lbs on my  
back & my legs ached yet.

Found feathers of great horned  
owl & blue grouse & saw 2 ♂ & ♀  
Franklin Grouse & 2 Ruffed  
grouse. Saw the loon &  
a pair of still drakes again  
at upper end of lake. No new  
birds.

April 18 - Left Kiowa table  
8 A.M. & reached Sloans cabin  
at 1 P.M. Snowing in morning.  
Lots of fresh coyote tracks, a  
few snowshoe rabbit & weasel tracks.  
Slippery & hard walking.

In PM. rode down to Dennis  
Sullivan's & walked a mile &  
a half farther to Theodore Christensen's  
where I staid all night & gathered  
up the skulls saved for me.  
Black & grizzly bear & mountain lions.

Had purple juncos on Big  
Prairie and varied thrush above.  
Also saw poorwicks & lots of robins &  
bluebirds & junco. No woodpecker  
until Christensen's where they are  
singing. - A sparrow hawk on Big  
Prairie.

April 19

Left the Christiansens as the sun came over the mts. with a pack of skulls on my back, about 25 lbs. Reached Canas Creek at noon and Lola McDonald at about 4 PM. Then came in to Bittern after supper.

Made 21 miles on foot except one mile on horseback with a boy leading an extra saddle horse. Encountered over Mr. G. G. Madsen snow still 4 feet deep on the S. of the Creek ridge, none above Dutch Creek to Bittern.

The snowfall is much heavier in McDonald & Canas Creek valley than above. The white pines, yellow cedar, Hemlock, and spruce are restricted to this area of heavy snowfall.

Saw a red tail hawk, a fish hawk  
& lots of common birds.  
Coyotes barked along road.

April 20 - Packed specimens  
wrote letters at Carlton.  
Went up to Gibb's place at  
fish Creek after supper and  
stayed all night.

April 21 - Started up Lake W. Dardel  
in morning in rowboat with  
Evansville notes. A still  
morning & thousands of ducks on  
lake. Counted 13 species.  
horned & hornbills gulls & loon.  
& gulls. Swans & geese  
have all gone north last month.  
Went to the cabin of the care-  
taker at Lewis's & staid  
all night. Gibb & the two  
men went fishing at upper end  
of lake and each got his  
limit of 20 fish & two 2 pound  
trout & one 4 pound bull trout.  
We had a mess of the smaller

ones cooking for supper and I ate 2 that would have weighed a pound apiece and half another that had been smoked.

They were all delicious and made a good supper. We brought the rest of the lot about 55 down to Fish Creek to Mr. Paine.

The two men at Lewises have been fishing & salting & smoking & drying trout until they have a large lot on hand. besides a key of whitefish which they have salted. No wonder the fishing is poor in summer if many people are storing them away all winter as they are — other places as well as here.

Photographed woodrats nests & watched ducks & birds.

April 22. The wind blew and  
the motor wouldn't work, so  
we rowed up to head of lake  
and I went up to falls and  
photographed water angles nest  
while Gibb went down to Kelley's  
to see if the engine could be  
made to work.

Found a moose skull & took  
it along to Kelley's and then  
down in the boat & carried  
it out on my back to Belton  
& sent it in. It is a fine  
head except for lack of lower  
jaws.

Packed up and left Belton  
next morning early for Kolopelt

Top

April 23 - Took train at  
Bettles at 6:20 AM and  
reached Kalispell at 8 AM.  
Went to Kalispell Hotel to write  
reports where I could be as  
comfortable as possible.  
Got negatives developed  
& laundry done.

April 24 & 25 - At the Kalispell  
Hotel writing reports.

Saw H. H. Stanford & got 2 grizzly  
skulls from him.

Four hours Flint took me out  
to J. F. Libby's house where I saw his  
collection of bison skins.

He has a small yellow brown grizzly  
skull bisected with its skull  
inside. and a cub skull of a  
brown sable. Mr. Libby says the  
2 skulls I got were dark

with silvery tips. She says they were killed on Flat Top, but I think it was the one near St. Mary Lake as Libby was stationed there at one time.

Left Kalispell at 10:20 P.M.  
April 25.

April 26. Daylight before reaching Spokane. Reached Seattle before dark - 8 P.M.

Season more advanced at Spokane than at Kalispell.  
Lupines & Balsamorhiza in blossom & grass well up.  
Only *Anemone* flowers at Kalispell.

In Columbia River & ~~Wadsworth~~  
Wenatchee river valley, scenes of ploughs are out - Lupines,

Ladyslipper, Phlox, *Kingia*  
& apples & cherries, trees in leaf & grass tall.

Lots of snow on crest of Cascades, but very little along railroad at summit.

On west slope spring is far advanced with lots of flowers, trees in leaf & crops well along.  
Western skunk cabbage conspicuous by big yellow flowers, pink flowering currants brilliant, *Gilia* out, Apples & cherries & dogwood flowers.

with ribbon tail. She says  
April 27 - Got mail & went  
to Forest Service office at Seattle  
but found the Olympic post  
office was at Olympia, so  
took first train down there &  
got map & some information  
as I could & caught 7 PM  
train back to Seattle so as to  
get the midnight boat to  
Port Angeles when I began  
work on the elk. Will see  
Ranger Carl Morganroth at  
Port Angeles & get more recent  
data from him.

Country full of flowers & grass  
& growing fruit & crops &  
very warm & opening blossoms.

April 29 - Arrived at Port Angeles  
7 AM & went to Moreland Hotel.  
Learned that the first ranger, Carl  
Morganroth, would not be back until  
tomorrow so tramped in woods  
back of town and made lists of  
Plants & birds.

April 30 - My baggage was left at  
Port Townsend & came at noon today.  
Got out my supplies for the traps, saw  
the ranger and was already  
start in working.

April 31. Went mail + went  
April 31. Took stage to Elwha  
River + hiked up east side of river  
to Grant Hemes place 10 miles  
above bridge. Arrived at 5 P.M.  
+ finding no one at home  
took peaceful possession of the  
ranch, fed the chickens, gathered  
the eggs, carried in wood for  
the night + had supper ready  
ready when Mr. Hemes came  
in at dusk. Found him a pleasant  
fellow from Louisville, Ky. who had  
been out here about 10 years + was  
well acquainted with the country +  
game + people, a well read,  
intelligent fellow + quite a  
naturalist. Learned much from  
him in regard to elk + game  
+ mountain lions + wolves.

Found a good trail up the river  
through beautiful forests on the flats  
+ over the ridges. Watched the  
open slopes for elk but saw none  
the tracks were numerous. The same  
with deer. Saw one hoary marten  
down near the river on a log.

Hemes has killed many mountain lions  
+ says they make kiss col scratches  
a dog, ferocious growl when  
in a trap. He has 2 skins of a  
puma killed in Feb., very dark brown  
with much black on tail. Also  
a bob cat skin. Taken in March it  
is very red + beautiful.

May 1. - Started down the valley  
but on west side of river & pr 3  
miles without any trail except  
elk trails. Struck the Hot Springs  
trail below Boulder Cr., & reached  
the Stage road at 7 P.M.

Saw 3 elk in Hines' field in evening  
and 2 in field across river and 11 on  
hill above, and 29 on next ridge  
and 38 on next ridge near Cat  
Creek. Tracks & signs were numerous  
most of way down the river and  
at Elkhorn Meadows near the stage road  
a drove of about 30 had been chased out  
of the clover field in the morning &  
had run through a barbed wire fence in  
3 places & broken one or two of  
the 5 wires and in one place torn  
them all but top & bottom wires left  
for several rods, when the stage  
owner went after them with dog

and shot gun. Hines estimates  
7000 elk in the valley & this is  
abundant evidence of that many.

In color the elk were strikingly  
dark iron gray with very buffy  
sunp patches. This side matches  
the back of spruce & fir logs perfectly  
& the sunp patches the yellow color  
of the end of a broken log.

These males are dark & not so brown  
as in the hill country elk. The bulls  
have horns of 3 rounded knobs  
about 10 inches long.

Some were seen feeding on willow  
leaves & twigs & many on grass or  
clover in the fields. The bushes  
most browsed are willow, maple,  
Salmon berry, *Carollothrus*, *Holodiscus*  
and a little on thimble berry, red  
pine cherry. Hines says they eat much  
long beeb in winter, also willow bark.

Blacktail day - Saw only one deer but thousands of tracks. They are eating up Mr. Lundsen's clover and timothy field & he says ate up 5 acres of oats last year when he should have had 500 bushels of oats.

Many flowers in blossom including wonderful pink currants, fuchsia like gooseberry, white *Erythroniums*, lots of *Calypso*

May 2, Left Elwha on the stage at 9:30 and followed good road through big forest along edge of Sutherland Lake, then do. of Crescent Lake to the north and where I took ferry boat to the west end of lake. Then caught a track to near Forks on the lower Sol Duc R. From Crescent Lake west the road was especially interesting through wonderful forest of Douglas spruce, hemlock, balsam, and west of Beaver Lake of Sitka spruce. The trees are large and tall & close together so the dense stand excludes all but mosses, ferns and a few shade loving plants in the pupal forest. Along the streams & meadows & openings alders & maples among shrubs grow densely.

Many strips of ridge slopes have been burned over and only blackened stumps & logs remain. There are a few clearings and farms along the stream bottoms but the fields are small & have been cleared at great expense. Oats & timothy and cattle are the principal products, but oats & vegetables grow well. Crops look good & it is a great dairy country with luxuriant grass feed all the year around.

At Forks they have a saw mill & are cutting aeroplane timber of Sitka Spruce and hauling it on trucks to Port August 50 miles distant. They get \$105 per ~~44~~ 1,000 feet & 2c for hauling. The roads are excellent.

Rained most of P.M.

May 3. Got saddle horse at Fades and trail to Bogachiel and the Hoh and up the Hoh to Feed Fibers ranch about a mile above Spruce & on the north side. Came about 26 miles over punchy trail not of way. All through big woods went and unburned. It is supreme wild foot country, with moss laden trees, deep mossy ground, cool, damp, shady woods.

Enormous trees of Douglas spruce, Sitka spruce, yellow cedar, hemlock and alder in varying abundance.

Saw one cone of *Pinus monticola* but did not stop & find the tree.

Huge cottonwoods grow along the stream bottoms and alders form dense thickets on the flats. Big bears & vine maples grow where ever they can get in between & are mainly draped with moss.

Skunk cabbage is in full bloom  
with great yellow calla like flowers  
the richest I have seen. Salmon  
berry bushes are in full bloom  
& ferns cover the ground in places  
& in other places there is buckwheat  
& sorrel.

The trails are so wet & muddy  
for a large part of the year that dogs  
are split out and laid down in  
continuous corduroy or bridge  
work & these are called "jundions"  
They are about 6 feet long, making a  
trail just too narrow for wagons  
but one horse sleds are used in  
them in wet weather & probably  
slip along nicely. A number of the  
sleds made for these trails were  
seen along the sides.

For company I had 4 Quets  
Indians on this way to the lower  
Hoh, 2 young men, an old squaw  
& her daughter. They were intelligent,  
spoke good English & gave me  
some good information about the  
country. They catch fur seals  
out at sea in their canoes  
& also kill harbor seals for the  
bounty & birds. They say there  
are some fishers & martins & minks,  
& <sup>other</sup> coons and bobcats, but no  
Canada lynx or foxes or wolverines  
or muskrats and no longer any  
beavers.

Rained most of P.M. & I got  
pretty wet before reaching Fishers.

May 4. Left my boat at Fishers  
& walked up the Hoh river trail  
to the upper ranger cabin near  
the head of the valley, 17 miles.  
No one at the station & locked, so  
I camped in the shed where a  
stake roof keeps off the rain.  
Had a good trail most of way along  
river flats in big woods.

Saw one band of about 30 elk  
& a few small bunches. Lot of  
Elk tracks all the way up but  
the woods & brush are so thick  
you do not see the elk unless you  
are right on them. I got within  
75 to 100 feet. of twice seen, but  
the light is poor for photography.  
Evidently the estimate of 2000 for  
the Hoh valley is not too high as  
for 20 miles or more the tracks are  
numerous & well arranged a - - -

Above Fishers the valley is  
cleared out of the salmonberry, willow,  
blueberry bushes, <sup>elder</sup> and most of the elk  
browse except one maple. The elk  
are picking various plants for the ground  
but seem to be feeding mostly on  
the young leaves of the oaks maple.  
In places they still get some salmon  
berry which seems to be their favorite  
food. They are in good condition  
and all very dark colored except  
now & then an old cow or old bull  
that is somewhat faded.

The horns of the old bulls are  
generally 4 to 10 inches long  
in 2 or 3 rounded knobs.

In most cases I could get up to  
50 or 100 feet of the elk, but in  
the dense woods there is not  
enough light for snapshots.

May 5. Slept in an open shed  
at the Olympic Fast camp station  
and was glad to have a good shade  
roof over me for it rained steadily  
all night. Found an old tent and  
covered up with it & slept pretty  
well, tho' a rather cold night.  
It snowed a few hundred feet higher  
up and apparently a foot of fresh  
snow lay on the ridge above.

Started early & walked back  
down the trail 17 miles to Ted  
Fisher's. Saw a number of  
small bands of elk, but none  
of more than 9. Rained in P.M.  
Hat, tent & foot-sack.

May 6. Left Fred Fischer's in riding on horseback, but out about 3 miles the cinch loosened & as I got off the saddle turned & the horse knocked me down and walked on me and bucked off the saddle & ran down the trail. I carried saddle & blanket & bridles which soon came off down to Carl Fischer's, about 3 miles, where Carl caught my horse and helped me mend the cinch & get loaded up again. I took photographs of some elk and deer heads at Carl's and got some additional information from him on elk & deer.

Then continued over the trail to Forde, where I arrived about 6 P.M. The trip of 25 miles, largely over pine-covered trails, was slow and cold, and tiresome, after my heavy pack load in the morning, and the occasional drizzle and cold, damp

air prevented my fully enjoying the magnificent forest of hemlock, Douglas spruce, Sitka spruce, yellow cedar & white fir through which the trail leads.

The rains have made the trail very muddy between places where covered with ferns & made the path slippery so travelling was hard & slow. There was little chance to take pictures but I tried a few of the trail & of skunk cabbage which grows in wonderful beds — wet places.

May 7. No stage to Crescent Lake until Friday so I hired an auto to take me the first 30 miles through wonderful forest but a cold drizzling rain dampened my enjoyment of it. The boat trip across Crescent Lake was cold and raw as I sat in the cabin in a cloud of cigarette smoke and watched the gamblers play cards for money.

Took the lower road back from the lake around by Port Crescent and through the awful drift of stumps along the coast strip that has been lumbered off and burned and occasionally little patches cleared for farms. It was the great cedar belt of the state and has gone to cover the roofs of the whole country.

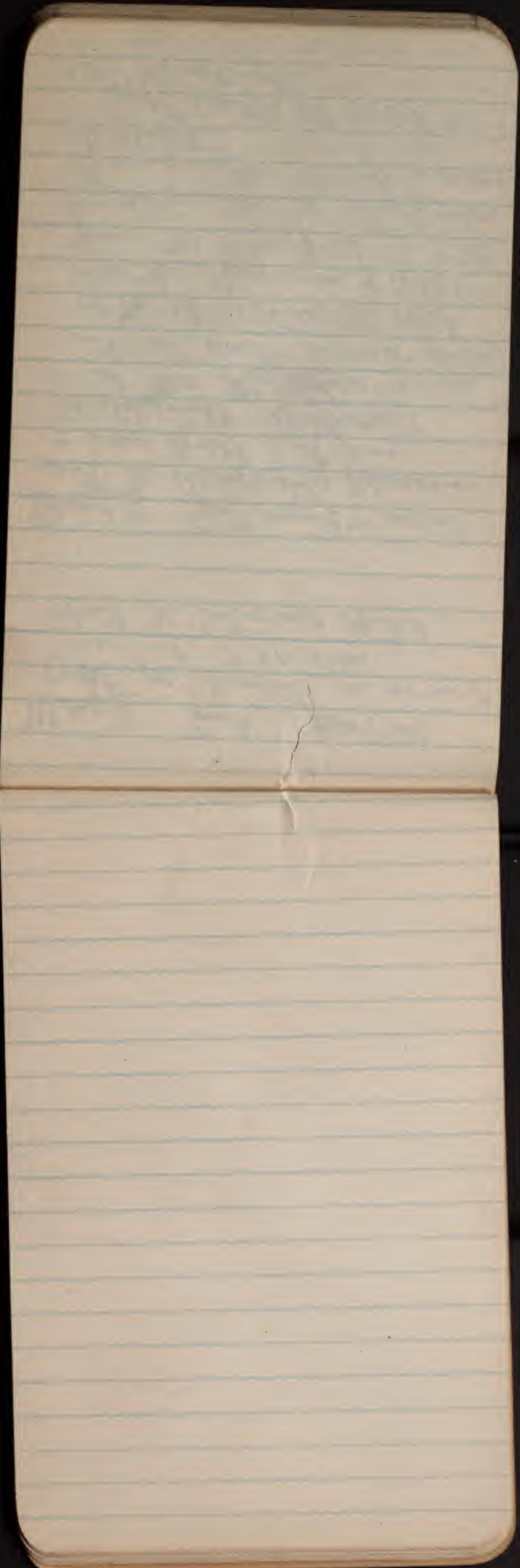
Reached Port Angeles at noon,

It is cold and windy but there has been no rain over here for the past 6 days whilst it has been raining west of the mts. There is a great difference in climate, being much drier and somewhat colder in winter east of the mts. The vegetation indicates the difference, madrones & even a few manzanitas growing along the Elwha & in the Port Angeles region.

May 8, Took 1st bus PM  
boat for Seattle and arrived  
there at 7:30 PM.  
Went to Stevens Hotel.

May 9 Got up & went  
out to University Museum  
& saw Hael and his  
taxidermist Albrecht  
and Mr. Rathbun came  
out and had lunch with  
us at the Faculty Club.  
Saw the specimens of all  
from the Olympics, but the  
museum has no study series  
of mammals and only a poor  
exhibit.

Left Seattle at 7:10 PM  
for Washington.



The snowfall is light & this is  
the best winter range in the park.  
The deer are chased on by coyotes  
and need the protection of men  
and traps & feed.

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Olson place of 160 acres is  
60 a year

On P. C. Miller place of 80 acres  
75 a year.

These join the Adair place and  
cut over 100 tons of hay a year  
and deer now feed at the stacks  
(27 acres at one time cut) 1912  
The place should be leased by  
the Govt. and the hay cut and  
stacked for deer, in and around  
Cattle could be eliminated & dogs  
kept out & hay for <sup>winter</sup> fast horses  
could be cut

These two ranches could be bought for  
4500. this spring. They join the Adair  
ranch when the ~~the~~ & Forest boundary line  
160 acres, (4 over without the timber & 600  
with the yellow pine on it)

Ora Reeves, 2 miles below  
Cannas Cr. Bridge, caught a grizzly  
Cub & sold it to pack at Spokane.  
Also has a panther cub at Columbia  
Falls. - Jim Grays keeps it.

March 3 1873 - 7 a.m.

Clarissa F. Albrecht  
Division Vertebrate Exhibits  
State Museum, Seattle.